suggestion has also been made to rename Public Provident Fund as Individual Retirement Account to focus on the objective of providing income security during old age. The recommendations of the Committee are in the nature of review and feedback on the ongoing pension and provident fund schemes and subject to feasibility wherever appropriate use of the recommendations shall be made to streamline and improve these programmes.

भारतीय भाषाओं में उत्तर लिखना

2565. **चौधरी हरमोहन सिंह यादव:**
श्री ईश दत्त यादव:

क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि केंन्द्रीय सरकार ने विभिन्न सेवाओं में भर्ती के लिए सभी प्रतियोगी परिक्षाओं में भारतीय भाषाओं में उत्तर लिखने कै विकल्प की छूट दी है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो ऐसी सभी सेवाओं का ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) क्या संसद द्वारा 18 जनवरी, 1998 को इस आशय से पारित संकल्प को पूर्णत: कार्यान्वित कर दिया गया है; और

(घ) यदि नहीं, तो उसके क्या कारण है और सरकार उसे कब तक कार्यान्वित करने का विचार रखती है?

कार्मिक, लोक शिकायत और पेंशन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा वित्त (बैंकिंग, राजस्व और बीमा) मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री कादम्बूर एम.आर. जनार्दनन): (क) और (ख) जी, नहीं, भारतीय संविधान की आठवीं अनुसूची में शामिल भाषाओं में से किसी भी भाषा में उत्तर लिखने का विकल्प, संघ लोक सेवा आयोग द्वारा संचालित सिविल सेवा (मुख्य) परीक्षा में ही सुलभ है।

(ग) और (घ) डॉ0 सतीश चन्द्र की अध्यक्षता में गठित विशेषज्ञ-समिति से अन्य बातों के साथ-साथ, संविधान की आठवीं अनुसूची में शामिल भारतीय भाषाओं का प्रतियोगी परीक्षाओं के प्रश्न पत्रों के प्रश्नों के उत्तर लिखने के माध्यम के रूप में प्रयोग आरम्भ किए जाने से संबंधित मुद्दे की जांच-पड़ताल करने को कहा गया था। उपर्युक्त विशेषज्ञ-समिति द्वारा की गई सिफारिशें सरकार के विचाराधीन हैं। उपर्युक्त मामले की महत्ता, नजाकत और इस पर मतान्तर, (मत-भिन्नता) के मद्देनजर, सरकार इसके बारे में एक मतैक्य (आम राय) कायम करने का प्रयास कर रही है।

Request of SSI Units for Release of Naphtha

2566. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 451 given in Rajya Sabha on 1st December, 1998 and state:

(a) how many requests of SSI units for the release of very small quantity to the tune of 24 Kilo litres per month of Naphtha are pending with PSUs;

(b) whether the PSUs have intimated the applicants regarding their consents to release the said quantity; if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether such SSI units are being compelled to contact the private refineries to cater to their needs; and

(d) by what time the requests of such units would be considered by the PSUs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a), (b) and (d) Two such requests were received by Indian Oil Corporation during October/November 1998 from SSI Units for supply of Naphtha. IOC has not conveyed its consent to supply Naphtha to these parties as they do not have any plant or machinery with them.

(c) No, Sir.

Growth of consumption of Petroleum Products

2567. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether at the present rate of growth of consumption of petroleum products, petroleum reserves are already to be exhausted in the first quarter of the next century, if so, how long the present known reserves are likely to last; and

(b) if so, what steps are contemplated to curb consumption of petrol, diesel for vehicles and other users to preserve petroleum reserves for the posterity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) At the current rate of

production, the present oil reserves of India will last for about 22 years. However, each year some additional reserves are added. Therefore, reserves for oil & gas will last for a longer period.

(b) The following steps are being taken to curb the growth rate of consumption of petroleum products in the country;

(i) Conservation of petroleum products through;

— multi-media campaign for creating mass awareness for conservation of petroleum products

— adoption of measures and practices which are conducive to increase fuel efficiency and training programme in the transport sector

— modernisation of boilers, furnaces and other oil operated equipment and promotion of fuel efficient practices

— standardisation of fuel efficient irrigation pump-sets and rectification of existing pump-sets to make them more energy efficient in the agricultural sector

— development and promotion of fuel efficient equipment and appliances like kerosene and LPG stoves in the household sector

— application of fuel efficient technologies.

(ii) Encouraging use of alternative sources of energy including substitution of petroleum products.

Patenting of Indigenous Petroleum Technologies

2568. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have thought of patenting indigenous petroleum technologies;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) As per CSIR policy, if any R&D work leads to such development where Intellectual Property rights can be secured, patents are filed. Accordingly, ONGC, IOC, CRL and IIP have filed applications for patents in the areas of Petroleum Refining, Petrochemical Intermediates, Catalysis, Products and Industrial & Domestic Appliances usign petroleum fuel, etc.

(c) Does not arise.

Proposal for Piped LPG in Andhra Pradesh

2569. SHRI YERRA NARAYANA-SWAMY:
SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering supplying piped gas to various plants, cities etc.;

(b) if so, what is the basic criteria for selecting population centres for arranging piped domestic LPG;

(c) have any centres been selected in Andhra Pradesh;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Visakhapatnam and Vijayawada would be ideal locations for pilot projects; and

(f) the steps proposed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) Based on the criteria of availability of gas and techno-economic feasibility, natural gas is being supplied through pipeline in some parts of Delhi and Mumbai cities through two joint venture companies formed by GAIL in association with M/s Bharat Petroleum Corp. Ltd. and M/s British Gas, UK, respectively.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f) No assessment has been made.

Production of BHT and DBPC by Balmer Lawree and Company

2570. SHRI SATISH CHANDRA SITARAM PRADHAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be